

June 29, 2012

* Statement from State Board of Education Chairman Bill Harrison Regarding Governor's Budget Decision

"Governor Bev Perdue made a good effort to reach across party lines to create a budget compromise that would have provided additional much-needed funding for public schools. It is unfortunate that the leaders of the General Assembly were not willing to meet her even less than half-way to come up with a revised plan. The current budget would give schools \$190 million less than they had last year to hire teachers. This level of funding is not enough to sustain progress or support student achievement. It is clear that she is left with no choice but to veto this budget.

Right now, superintendents across North Carolina are waiting for a final budget before they make critical spending decisions for the coming school year. That is why it is imperative that lawmakers work together in the coming days to quickly come up with a budget that does more for our public schools, students and the state."